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EXAMINER

PHAM, THIERRY L

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2624

DATE MAILED: 11/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action**

Application No.

09/491,865

Applicant(s)

HAYASHI, EIJI

Examiner

Thierry L Pham

Art Unit

2624

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 23 August 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

**PERIOD FOR REPLY** [check either a) or b)]

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. ☐ A Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.  
2. ☒ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:  
(a) ☒ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);  
(b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);  
(c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or  
(d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

3. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): \_\_\_\_\_.  
4. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).  
5. ☒ The a) ☐ affidavit, b) ☐ exhibit, or c) ☒ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.  
6. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.  
7. ☐ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) ☐ will not be entered or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

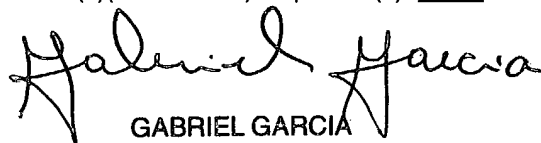
Claim(s) allowed: \_\_\_\_\_

Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_

Claim(s) rejected: \_\_\_\_\_

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_

8. ☐ The drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is a) ☐ approved or b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
9. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.  
10. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

  
GABRIEL GARCIA  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: newly added limitations "setting means for setting print data into at least one of a plurality of mail boxes and setting are performed using a user interface of the printer driver" found in claims 1, 8, 15, and 22 raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search..

## AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus executing a print driver for forming print data which can be interpreted by a printing apparatus in accordance with document data formed by an application, comprising:

setting means for setting either a mail box mode to accumulate the print data into at least one of a plurality of mail boxes of the printing apparatus without printing it or a printer output mode to sequentially print the print data received by the printing apparatus, in response to an operation input using a user interface of the printer driver;

name designating means for designating, where the mail box mode has been set by said setting means, allowing designation of a document name of the print data using the printer driver's user interface; and

forming means for forming the print data by adding information indicative of a destination [[in]] of the at least one of a plurality of mail boxes of the printing apparatus in accordance with the output mail box mode set by said setting means,

wherein the document name designated by said name designating means can be voluntarily designated via the printer driver's [[a]] user interface at screen of said information processing apparatus and is to be displayed on an operation panel of the printing apparatus.

2. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:  
display control means for, in the case where a mail-box-function of said printing apparatus cannot be used, displaying so as to make it possible to identify that a

18, 15, 22, 1

user interface to set the mail box mode by said setting means cannot be used.

3. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising obtaining means for obtaining device information from said printing apparatus, and wherein said display control means displays and controls whether the user interface to set the mail box mode can be used or not on the basis of said obtained device information.

4. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising box designating means for designating to which one of a plurality of mail box areas in said printing apparatus said print data is outputted when a mail box output is performed, and wherein said box designating means displays a mail box list including a box number and a box name and designates on the basis of the device information obtained by said obtaining means.

5. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising manual setting means for setting whether a mail box can be used or not on the user interface of a printer driver, and wherein said display control means displays and controls whether the user interface to set the mail box mode can be used or not on the basis of the setting by said manual setting means about whether the mail box can be used or not.

6. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein when the output mode is switched by said setting means, said display control means displays a message indicating that there is a change of the destination.

7. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said name designating means is capable of designating a name of the print data to be transmitted to the printing apparatus when the mail box mode is selected by said setting means.

8. (Currently Amended) An information processing method of a printer driver executable by an information processing apparatus for [[of]] forming print data which can be interpreted by a printing apparatus in accordance with document data formed by an application, comprising:

a setting step of setting either a mail box mode to accumulate the print data into at least one of a plurality of mail boxes of the printing apparatus without printing it or a printer output mode to sequentially print the print data received by the printing apparatus, in response to an operation input using a user interface of the printer driver;

a name designating step for designating, where the mail box mode has been set by said setting means, allowing designation of a document name of the print data using the printer driver's user interface; and

a forming step of forming the print data by adding information indicative of

a destination ~~[[in]]~~ of the at least one of a plurality of mail boxes of the printing apparatus in accordance with the ~~output~~ mail box mode set by said setting step,

wherein the document name designated by said name designating step can be voluntarily designated via ~~[[a]]~~ the printer driver's user interface ~~at screen of~~ said information processing apparatus and is to be displayed on an operation panel of the printing apparatus.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 8, further comprising:

a display control step of, in the case where a mail-box-function of said printing apparatus cannot be used, displaying so as to make it possible to identify that a user interface to set the mail box mode in said setting step cannot be used.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 9, further comprising an

obtaining step of obtaining device information from said printing apparatus,

and wherein in said display control step, whether the user interface to set the mail box mode can be used or not is displayed and controlled ~~on the~~ basis of said obtained device information.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 10, further comprising a

box designating step of designating to which one of a plurality of ~~mail box~~ areas in said printing apparatus said print data is outputted when a mail box ~~output~~ is performed,

and wherein in said box designating step, a mail box list including a box

number and a box name is displayed and the designation is performed on the basis of the device information obtained in said obtaining step.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 9, further comprising a manual setting step of setting whether a mail box can be used or not on the user interface of a printer driver,

and wherein in said display control step, whether the user interface to set the mail box mode can be used or not is displayed and controlled on the basis of the setting in said manual setting step about whether the mail box can be used or not.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein when the output mode is switched in said setting step, a message indicating that there is a change of the destination is displayed in said display control step.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein said name designating step is capable of designating a name of the print data to be transmitted to the printing apparatus when the mail box mode is selected in said setting step. [[,]]

15. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable memory medium which stores a printer driver program [[for]] executable by an information processing apparatus to form forming print data which can be interpreted by a printing apparatus in accordance with document data formed by an application, wherein said program comprises:



a code for setting either a mail box mode to accumulate the print data into at least one of a plurality of mail boxes of the printing apparatus without printing it or a printer output mode to sequentially print the print data received by the printing apparatus, in response to an operation input using a user interface of the printer driver;

a code for name designating for ~~designating~~, where the mail box mode has been set by said setting means, allowing designation of a document name of the print data using the printer driver's user interface; and

a code for forming the print data by adding information indicative of a destination ~~[[in]]~~ of the at least one of a plurality of mail boxes of the printing apparatus in accordance with said set output mail box mode,

wherein the code for the document name designated by said name designating means can be voluntarily designated via the printer driver's [[a]] user interface at screen of said information processing apparatus and is to be displayed on an operation panel of the printing apparatus.

16. (Original) A medium according to claim 15, wherein said printer driver program further comprises:

a display control code for, in the case where a mail-box-function of said printing apparatus cannot be used, displaying so as to make it possible to identify that a user interface to set the mail box mode by said setting code cannot be used.

17. (Original) A medium according to claim 16, wherein said printer

driver program further comprises an obtaining code for obtaining device information from said printing apparatus,

and said display control code displays and controls whether the user interface to set the mail box mode can be used or not on the basis of said obtained device information.

18. (Original) A medium according to claim 17, wherein said printer driver program further comprises a box designating code for designating to which one of a plurality of mail box areas in said printing apparatus said print data is outputted when a mail box output is performed,

and said box designating code displays a mail box list including a box number and a box name and designates on the basis of the device information obtained by said obtaining code.

19. (Original) A medium according to claim 16, wherein said printer driver program further comprises a manual setting code for setting whether a mail box can be used or not on its own user interface,

and said display control code displays and controls whether the user interface to set the mail box mode can be used or not on the basis of the setting by said manual setting code about whether the mail box can be used or not.

20. (Original) A medium according to claim 16, wherein when the

output mode is switched by said setting code, said display control code displays a message indicating that there is a change of the destination.

21. (Previously Presented) A medium according to claim 15, wherein said name designating code is capable of designating a name of the print data to be transmitted to the printing apparatus when the mail box mode is selected by said setting code.

22. (Currently Amended) A printer driver program stored on a computer-readable medium, said program executable by an information processing apparatus for forming print data which can be interpreted by a printing apparatus in accordance with document data formed by an application, comprising:

a code for setting either a mail box mode to accumulate the print data into at least one of a plurality of mail boxes of the printing apparatus without printing it or a printer output mode to sequentially print the print data received by the printing apparatus, in response to an operation input using a user interface of the printer driver;

code for name designating for ~~designating~~, where the mail box mode has been set by said setting means, allowing designation of a document name of the print data using the printer driver's user interface; and

a code for forming the print data by adding information indicative of a destination [[in]] of the at least one of a plurality of mail boxes of the printing apparatus in accordance with said set ~~output~~ mail box mode,

wherein the document name designated by said name designating means can be voluntarily designated via [[a]] the printer driver's user interface at screen of said information processing apparatus and is to be displayed on an operation panel of the printing apparatus.

23. (Original) A program according to claim 22, further comprising:  
a display control code for, in the case where a mail-box-function of said printing apparatus cannot be used, displaying so as to make it possible to identify that a user interface to set the mail box mode by said setting code cannot be used.

24. (Original) A program according to claim 23, further comprising an obtaining code for obtaining device information from said printing apparatus,  
and wherein said display control code displays and controls whether the user interface to set the mail box mode can be used or not on the basis of said obtained device information.

25. (Original) A program according to claim 24, further comprising a box designating code for designating to which one of a plurality of mail box areas in said printing apparatus said print data is outputted when a mail box output is performed,  
and wherein said box designating code displays a mail box list including a box number and a box name and designates on the basis of the device information obtained by said obtaining code.

26. (Original) A program according to claim 23, further comprising a manual setting code for setting whether a mail box can be used or not on its own user interface,

and wherein said display control code displays and controls whether the user interface to set the mail box mode can be used or not on the basis of the setting by said manual setting code about whether the mail box can be used or not.

27. (Original) A program according to claim 23, wherein when the output mode is switched by said setting code, said display control code displays a message indicating that there is a change of the destination.

28. (Previously Presented) A program according to claim 22, wherein said name designating code is capable of designating a name of the print data to be transmitted to the printing apparatus when the mail box mode is selected by said setting code.